Government Nominees on the Board of Governors of Shaw Wallace and Company Ltd.

1036. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI C.O. POULOSE:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the special bench of the Company Law Board has passed orders limiting the number of Directors to be inducted by the Central Government into the Board of Directors of the Shaw Wallace and Company Ltd. to just two; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure majority for the Government nominees on the Board of Directors of the company?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) In terms of the provisions of Section 408 of the Companies Act, 1956, the Central Government can apply to Company Law Board for appointment of such number of directors as may be considered just and reasonable to protect the interest of the company, its shareholders and members of public. The power to direct the Central Government to make appointment of directors vests with Company Law Board. The Company Law Board did not direct that a majority of Government nominees should be on the Board. On the other hand, Company Law Board has directed that the total number of directors on the Board of Shaw Wallace & Company should be 9 (nine). Out of that, two directors were to be appointed by the Central Government and two Directors were to be Company Law Board nominees. Thus, in all, 4 independent Directors have been appointed as per orders of the Company Law Board.

Voting by Postal Ballot

1037. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whehter Election Commission has formulated proposal to simplify and streamline the procedure for voting by postal ballot for army personnel and staff on poll duty/essential service so as to ensure their optimum participation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) the details of time frame for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (d) The Election Commission has not made any proposal to simplify and streamline the procedure for voting by ballot for army personnel, etc. On the other hand, it has suggested that the system of postal ballot be replaced by the system of proxy voting for service personnel. Government has not yet taken any decision in the matter.

Minimum Qualifications for Election of MPs and MLAs

1038. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring a legislation regarding prescribing minimum qualifications for Members of Parliament and State Legislatures; and

(b) if so, the decision, if any, taken or likely to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.